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ACTION
DIST. CTR ENC

ENJAMIN, A.	
RETZKE, J.C.	
URLINGAME, A.H.	
OPP, B.D.	
ROUCHER, D.W.	
AVIS, J.G.	
VERED, J.E.	X
ERRERA, D.W.	
ERRIS, L.R.	
RAIKOR, F.J.	
RANCIS, G.E.	
OODWIN, R.	
ANNI, B.J.	
EALY, T.J.	
DEKER, E.H.	
ENS, J. P.	
ERSH, J.M.	X
IRBY, W.A.	
RIEG, D.	
UESTER, A.W.	
EE, E.M.	
AJESTIC, J.R.	
ARX, G.E.	
ATHEWS, T.A.	
EURRENS, B.E.	
ORGAN, R.V.	
IZZUTO, V.M.	
OTTER, G.L.	
AFPELL, B.F.	
ANDLIN, N.B.	
WANSON, E.R.	
EBE, J.S.	
ILKINSON, R.B.	
ILSON, J.M.	
OUNG, E.R.	
ANE, J.O.	

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WORKS CONTROL
TRAFFIC

Reviewed for Addressee
Corres. Control RFP
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DATE BY

Ref Ltr. #

Department of Energy

ROCKY FLATS OFFICE
P.O. BOX 928
GOLDEN, COLORADO 80402-0928

Oct 14 2 12 PM '91

OCT 11 1991

ROCKY FLATS PLANT
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL

91-DOE-8712

Mr. Terry McKee
U.S. Department of the Army
Corps of Engineers, Omaha District
Tri-Lakes Project Office
9307 State Highway 121
Littleton, CO 80123-6901

Dear Mr. McKee:

The Department of Energy (DOE) is providing the following information, including maps, to your office for review. Please provide DOE with a determination as to whether this action is approved under a Section 404 Nationwide Permit or is exempt from all 404 permitting requirements.

The proposed action is the maintenance burning of heavy growths of vegetation, primarily linear stands of cattails (total is approximately 0.9 acres), in the South Interceptor Ditch (SID). The ditch is approximately 6,500' long, and is located on the south side of the Rocky Flats Plant, and immediately north of Woman Creek. The lack of regular SID maintenance has resulted in siltation in culverts, overgrown vegetation within the channel, sloughing of ditch banks, and significant deterioration of riprap and flow control structures. Because of these conditions, current engineering estimates have concluded that the SID can handle only 15 percent of the original 100 year design flow. The reduced capacity could cause the channel to overtop during a 100 year or smaller flood event, allowing potentially contaminated water to enter Woman Creek. This potential for contaminating the creek conflicts with the very purpose for which the SID was built.

Although an overall rehabilitation effort is needed for the SID, burning the ditch vegetation will provide an immediate increase in the present carrying capacity during the upcoming fall and winter seasons. The increased capacity will then be available during the heavy precipitation events that may occur during the spring of 1992. The burn will occur prior to the end of October 1991 based on a permit issued by the Colorado Department of Health. Burning will occur without the application of fuels to the vegetation. The vegetation is expected to return during the 1992 growing season. No fill will be placed in the ditch and no dredging will occur.

The enclosed Figure 1 shows the location of the SID (called the South Interceptor Diversion Canal on the drawing). Figure 2 is a USGS Louisville Quadrangle map showing the location of the plant. Please note that the USGS Quad map is not up to date. For example, Pond C-2, and the SID which flows into Pond C-2, are not shown on the Quad map. The ditch is located in T2S, R70W, Sections 10, 11, and 12.

The SID will require a complete rehabilitation effort within the next year to restore its carrying capacity. When the scope of the full effort is defined, DOE will transmit details of the planned rehabilitation to your office and request a determination of the proper Section 404 permit needed for the action.


1062

Mr. McKee

2

If you would like to visit the SID or have any questions, please call Bruce Thatcher at 966-3532 or Tricia Powell at 966-3260 of my staff.

Sincerely,


David P. Simonson
Assistant Manager
for Environmental Management

Enclosure

cc w/o Enclosure:
S. Nesta, EG&G/RF